

The Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

Mayor Kane stated that the notice of the time, date and location of the meeting had been provided pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 231 of the Laws of 1975 (Open Public Meetings Act).

Chief Dispenza opened the meeting with the Salute to the Flag, followed by a moment of silence in memory of Wilma Greason, long-time Board of Education member and sister to Lillie Hendry.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT	MAYOR KEVIN KANE
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DIBENEDETTO
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN ANNETTE JORDAN
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN ADAM REICH
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN MARGARET ROGERS
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN GEORGE SCHNURR
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN SHARON SHUTZER

Mayor Kane read Item No. 4 on the Agenda as follows:

“Approval of Minutes: Executive Sessions January 21, 2020 and February 3, 2020; Supplemental Minutes January 21, 2020, February 3, 2020 and February 18, 2020; Council Meeting February 18, 2020.”

Councilman Reich offered a motion to accept the minutes and was seconded by Councilwoman Shutzer:

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Kane read Item No. 5 on the agenda as follows:

“Second Reading and Public Hearing: Ordinance #2020/6 Amending Chapter 18.06.090 Special Improvement District and Designation of a District Management Corporation.”

Mayor Kane opened the meeting to the public.

There were no comments.

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto:

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

Councilwoman Jordan offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Rogers:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE #2020/6 AMENDING CHAPTER 18.06.090 SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AND DESIGNATION OF A DISTRICT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION." be, and same is hereby approved on second reading.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Kane read Item No. 6 on the Agenda as follows:

"Second Reading and Public Hearing: Bond Ordinance #2020/7 Amending in Part Bond Ordinance No. 2019-8 Adopted on October 7, 2019 Amending in Part Bond Ordinance No. 2018-2 Adopted on March 19, 2018 Providing for the Construction of a New Water Treatment Plant, in Order to Increase the Appropriation Therefor by \$2,300,000 for a Total Appropriation of \$9,500,000 to Increase the Authorized Bonds and Notes to be Issued to Finance a Portion of the Costs Thereof by \$2,300,000 for a Total Debt Authorization of \$9,475,000, and to Increase the Allocation of the Appropriation to Costs Permitted Under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20, Authorized in and by the Borough of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey."

Mayor Kane opened the meeting to the public.

There were no comments.

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Rogers:

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

Councilman DiBenedetto offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Rogers:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled "BOND ORDINANCE #2020/7 AMENDING IN PART BOND ORDINANCE NO. 2019-8 ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 7, 2019 AMENDING IN PART BOND ORDINANCE NO. 2018-2 ADOPTED ON MARCH 19, 2018 PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW WATER TREATMENT PLANT, IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATION THEREFOR BY \$2,300,000 FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$9,500,000 TO INCREASE THE AUTHORIZED BONDS AND NOTES TO BE ISSUED TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS THEREOF BY \$2,300,000 FOR A TOTAL DEBT AUTHORIZATION OF \$9,475,000, AND TO INCREASE THE ALLOCATION OF THE APPROPRIATION TO COSTS PERMITTED UNDER N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY." be, and same is hereby approved on second reading.

Councilman Schnurr reported the average homeowner will see an increase of \$.92 a week which will pay for the brand new water plant.

Councilman DiBenedetto stated the municipality already had the best water in the state, maybe in the North East, and will continue to provide the great water residents are used to getting and is looking forward to the update to the antiquated system currently in place.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Kane read Item No. 7 on the Agenda as follows:

"Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Ordinance #2020/8 of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, New Jersey, Authorizing the Sale of Property Owned by the Borough of Freehold, Designated as Tax Block 78, Lot 4; 9 Otterson Road in the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, New Jersey."

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE #2020/8 OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PROPERTY OWNED BY THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, DESIGNATED AS TAX BLOCK 78, LOT 4; 9 OTTERSON ROAD IN THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY." be, and same is hereby approved on first reading, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk be and she is hereby authorized to publish said Ordinance in the Asbury Park Press and that shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on March 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM and that during the week of said meeting copies of the Ordinance shall be made available at the Clerk's office to members of the general public who shall request same.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Kane read Item No. 8 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolutions Authorizing the Transfer of Appropriations in the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget:

- a. From Road Repairs/Maintenance –S&W Salary Adjustments to Contribution of Accumulated Absences Road Repair/Maintenance –Other Expense.**
- b. Contribution to Accumulated Absences to Reserve for Accumulated Absences Trust.**
- c. Road Repair & Maintenance – S&W, Road Repair & Maintenance – Other Expenses to Reserve for Storm Recovery Trust.”**

Councilman Schnurr offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Jordan:

RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET:

- A. FROM ROAD REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE –S&W SALARY ADJUSTMENTS TO CONTRIBUTION OF ACCUMULATED ABSENCES ROAD REPAIR/MAINTENANCE –OTHER EXPENSE.**
- B. CONTRIBUTION TO ACCUMULATED ABSENCES TO RESERVE FOR ACCUMULATED ABSENCES TRUST.**
- C. ROAD REPAIR & MAINTENANCE – S&W, ROAD REPAIR & MAINTENANCE – OTHER EXPENSES TO RESERVE FOR STORM RECOVERY TRUST.**

Councilman Schnurr stated this is routine accounting maintenance.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Kane read Item No. 9 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Authorizing a Professional Services Contract with DMR Architects for Grant Application Services Related to the Freehold Library.”

Councilwoman Jordan offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH
DMR ARCHITECTS FOR GRANT APPLICATION SERVICES RELATED TO THE
FREEHOLD LIBRARY.**

Councilwoman Jordan reported this is for services for assistance with a grant application that will be submitted to the State of New Jersey.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Kane read Item No. 10 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution Supporting the Application of Freehold Racing Association for Sports
Wagering License and Preliminary Design Plan.”**

Councilwoman Rogers offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Shutzer:

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION OF FREEHOLD RACING
ASSOCIATION FOR SPORTS WAGERING LICENSE AND PRELIMINARY
DESIGN PLAN.**

Councilman DiBenedetto stated he thought the track would have moved quicker on this and he reported the municipality will be collecting 1.25% of the wagers collected.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Kane read Item No. 11 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:

- a. **Raffle License #14-20, Park Avenue Elementary PTO, 50/50, 3/28/20, 280 Park Avenue.**
- b. **Raffle License #15-20, Park Avenue Elementary PTO, Gift Auction, 3/28/20, 280 Park Avenue.**
- c. **Vendor License, Maria Sacramento, Jazmin Ice Cream.**
- d. **Taxi Driver License, George Alma, Millstone.**
- e. **Taxi Driver License, Miquel Pantoja, Jackson.**
- f. **Taxi Driver Licenses, Octavio Pantoja, Freehold.**
- g. **Taxi Driver License, Bernabe Galvan, East Windsor.**
- h. **Taxi Driver License, Valeria Franco Juarez, Freehold.**
- i. **Taxi Driver License, Yudith Ysidro, Long Branch.”**

Councilman Reich offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Shutzer:

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS: 11A – 11J.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Higgins read Item No. 12 on the Agenda as follows:

“Approval of Bills.”

Councilman Schnurr offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that the bills on the attached list in the amount of \$1,719,652.56 be paid as presented.

Councilman Schnurr explained the top five bills:

1. \$853,974.00 – Manasquan River Regional Sewer Authority (1st Quarter)
2. \$292,732.64 – Payroll
3. \$139,176.34 – Health Benefits
4. \$ 95,000.00 – Lien Redemption
5. \$ 93,421.00 – Musco Sports Lighting (Lights at Little League Field)

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Kane read Item No. 13 on the Agenda as follows:

“Clerk – Late Communications.”

There were none.

Mayor Kane read Item No. 14 on the Agenda as follows:

“Public Comments”

Mr. Jeff Friedman, Downtown Center Management reported the St. Patrick’s Day Parade will be Sunday, March 15th at 1:00 PM, the Flavor of Freehold March 17th and 18th and Pub Crawl on March 19th.

Ms. Paige Frothingham, 5 Prospect Place, raised concerns about the cleanliness of the town. She gave many examples of residents and businesses with dirty sidewalks, broken

sidewalks, broken glass and garbage. She provided pictures of various properties and suggested more trash receptacles are needed. She stated the sidewalk on Manalapan Avenue is very broken and dangerous. She stated the street sweepers need to clean the street gutters.

Councilman Schnurr stated the Business Administrator will speak to the Code Enforcement Official and violation notices can be given.

Mayor Kane stated the issues will be looked into.

Mr. Tom Baldwin, Voght Avenue, stated he agreed with the previous resident and hopes the cleanliness gets addressed. He expressed his disappointment that Mr. Bellina is no longer the Business Administrator as he was always treated with respect. Mr. Baldwin asked if Redevelopment Presentations can be put on the agenda after Public Comments, so residents don't have to wait late into the night to express their concerns. Mr. Baldwin gave ratings on the various Borough Departments and stated the employees are underpaid. He stated he does not want to rate the Governing Body since many are new to their positions. He encouraged Mayor Kane to continue the Mayor's Open Hour weekly and encouraged the Councilmembers to be their own people and serve the citizens as best as they can.

Ms. Frothingham suggested in honor of Earth Day on April 22nd, every resident should be encouraged to participate in a community-wide clean up.

Mayor Kane announced the Mayor's Clean-Up Day is scheduled for May 16th with free paper shredding and use of dumpsters in multiple locations.

Ms. Frothingham asked if kids could help elderly residents who can't clean-up for themselves.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated that was looked into in the past but it could not be done because of liability issues. She stated it is a good idea, but the municipality must be very careful.

Councilman Reich announced the Human Relations Committee will be doing a clean-up of the railroad tracks and they are looking for volunteers to assist them. He stated they also have an adopt the neighbor program where neighbors apply for assistance with odd jobs and kids can earn community service hours. Councilman Reich offered to give her contact information to the Human Relations Committee if she wanted to get involved.

Mr. Baldwin asked when the Human Relations Committee meets.

Councilman Reich responded meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM.

Councilwoman Shutzer made a motion to close Public Comments, seconded by Councilwoman Rogers.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Kane, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Higgins declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Kane read Item No. 15 on the Agenda as follows:

“Council Comments.”

Councilman Schnurr congratulated Councilwoman Rogers and the Court Street School Education Community Center on the wonderful Black History Month presentation. He said it was very well done. Councilman Schnurr announced he and Councilwoman Jordan attended the Annual Municipal Elected Officials Workshop at Brookdale Community College and reported Freeholder Director Thomas Arnone will be visiting towns to make a presentation on shared services. He stated he read the Health Department report which highlighted a story about a dog named Snoop.

Councilwoman Rogers reported the Black History Month program was outstanding and credited Trena Parks-Bradley for an amazing job. Councilwoman Rogers stated Shade Tree Commission informed residents of scheduled tree plantings and spoke to homeowners to inform them of their responsibility in caring for the tree. She stated it was a very proactive approach and will help when planting begins shortly.

Councilman DiBenedetto offered his sympathy to the Greason family. He invited everyone to come downtown and meet new people. He thanked the residents for their input and suggested forming a citizen’s committee to address some of the issues that were mentioned. Councilman DiBenedetto stated there are some obstacles with curbing as some roads belong to the county or state and he did acknowledge seeing sidewalks in need of repair. He thanked everyone for attending.

Councilwoman Jordan stated the highly competitive Library Grant application opens March 8th and more information will follow. She stated the Participatory Budgeting Committee is accepting applications for new ideas. She happily reported the lights at the Little League Field are going in. She stated there is a meeting tomorrow night to discuss any new ideas. Councilwoman Jordan thanked Mr. Baldwin for comments and stated she is striving for an A+ this year.

Councilman Reich thanked everyone for coming. He reported the Historic Preservation Committee is reviewing properties in the Core Redevelopment and Rehabilitation Zones. The Human Relations Committee will have their March Meeting on the 5th. He announced they are partnering with the Historic Preservation Committee to hold a Historic Walk along with other events. Councilman Reich reported the Beautification Contest is open and prizes will be awarded. Councilman Reich stated he has attended various seminars and stated he is grateful for the Business Administrator and everyone that works for the Borough for their guidance.

Councilwoman Shutzer offered condolences to the Hendry and Greason families. She stated Wilma Greason, Lillie Hendry’s sister, was a lovely lady. She announced the Senior Bus

Schedule is available and the Housing Authority is need of new members. Councilwoman Shutzer stated she is working towards an A+ as well. She announced the sidewalk on West George Street mentioned by Ms. Frothingham is in dispute with the state and their contractor.


Mayor Kane thanked everyone for attending. Mayor Kane told Mr. Baldwin he will find Mr. Gallo is a very knowledgeable administrator. He announced the Mayor's Office Hours will continue on Wednesdays from 5:30 – 6:30.

Councilwoman Shutzer offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto:

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Jordan, Kane, Rogers, Schnurr and Shutzer voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Kane declared the motion adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

TLD:lc